
Program Memorandum Intermediaries/Carriers

Department of Health and
Human Services (DHHS)
HEALTH CARE FINANCING
ADMINISTRATION (HCFA)

Transmittal AB-01-18

Date: FEBRUARY 1, 2001

CHANGE REQUEST 1529

**SUBJECT: New Automatic Notice of Change to Medicare Secondary Payer (MSP)
Auxiliary File**

Historically, intermediaries and carriers have become aware of changes to the Common Working File (CWF) MSP auxiliary file in one of two ways: 1) receipt of an 01 response confirming acceptance of an MSP change they initiated; and 2) receipt of an MSP trailer with a CWF reply to a claim sent to CWF for payment. This process will continue.

However, in addition, beginning with the implementation date of this Program Memorandum (PM), CWF will send a new MSP transaction to all intermediaries and carriers of record when an MSP auxiliary record is created or changed for any beneficiary. The new transaction will contain the same data fields in the same format as the MSP trailer but, since it will not be initiated by submission of a current claim, it will not be returned as part of a claim reply. It will be sent by CWF as a separate transaction identified by transaction type "HOSS." Intermediaries and carriers of record for a beneficiary are those for whom CWF has previously processed a claim to payment. CWF will maintain an ongoing record by beneficiary of contractors for whom claims have been accepted. CWF will begin building this record based on claims authorized for payment on or after the effective date of this instruction.

Standard claims processing and contractor systems must be modified to recognize this new transaction and use it the same as the MSP trailer. This includes initiating claims history searches and commencing any necessary recovery actions.

The *effective date* for this PM is July 1, 2001.

The *implementation date* for this PM is July 1, 2001.

These instructions should be implemented within your current operating budget.

This PM may be discarded after July 1, 2002.

If you have any questions, contact Harry Gamble at 410-786-5787.